

on their heads, while their feet are in the shadows.

The aged saint is not lonely. One of the ills of old age is loneliness. The old man has seen his companions fall into the grave one after another until they are all, or nearly all, gone. If he depended altogether on the world for fellowship he would be lonely. But he has found a Friend that sticketh closer than a brother. God not only promises to be present with his people, but he manifests his presence. He does not leave them to infer that he is present, but he reveals his presence, so that they feel and know that he is with them.

Righteousness gives to old age perpetual beauty and strength. It is amusing and pathetic to see some old people trying to rub out the marks of age by artificial substitutes. It is perfectly natural that they should do so. Beauty is a gift of God. He evidently admires beauty Himself, for he has lavished it in every part of his creation. But there is a spiritual beauty as well as a physical beauty. Physical beauty is but a shadow, which soon fades. Beauty will fade from the flower, from the landscape, from the face of the child. But spiritual beauty is immortal. It is the beauty of truth, of righteousness, of goodness. Tho the outward man perish, this inward man shall be renewed day by day, and shall never fade.

Righteousness makes even old age fruitful. "They shall bring forth fruit in old age" One indictment against old age is a period of uselessness. Many old people complain that the days of their usefulness are over. They do not see why they should live any longer, for they are of no use. But the Christian never ceases to be useful. By his example, by his counsel, and by his prayers he may help on every good cause and every weak saint. No class of men can give greater encouragement and inspiration to the young than can the aged. It is Longfellow that sings:

"But why, you ask me, should this tale be told  
To men grown old, or who are growing old?  
It is too late! Ah, nothing is too late  
Till the tired heart shall cease to palpitate."

Then, after relating how many earnest men have achieved wonders in old age, he says:

"What then? Shall we sit idly down and say,  
The night hath come, it is no longer day?  
The night hath not yet come; we are not quite  
Cut off from labor by the failing light.  
Something remains for us to do and dare;  
Even the oldest tree some fruit may bear:  
For age is opportunity no less  
Than youth itself, tho in another dress.  
And as the evening twilight fades away,  
The skies are filled with stars invisible by day."

—Christian Advocate.

As God doth kindly stay  
His rough wind in the day  
His east wind keenly blows:

So in the time of need,  
When hearts are sore and bleed,  
His dearest love he shows.

For all the storms he guides;  
On all the winds he rides;  
What we can bear he knows.

—Henry Alexander Lavelly.

## Missions

### December Report of the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church

#### GENERAL FUND

Brethren Church, Fairview, Ind.,	2 50
Cora Snyder, Waterloo, Iowa,	5 00
A Sister, Columbus, Ohio,	35
S S C E, McLouth, Kans.,	2 35
Mary E. Martin, Pioneer, Ohio,	1 00
Sunday-school Chicago Mission,	15 00
J. S. C. Spickerman, Maryville, Mo.,	80
	\$26 59

#### WASHINGTON FUND

Brethren church, St. James, Md.,	7 30
Mary A. Snyder, Glovers Gap, Va.,	1 00
S. A. Wine, Quicksburg, Va.,	1 00
Mr. & Mrs. C. H. Williams, Lansdale, Pa.,	2 00
Kate Snyder, Hatfield, Pa.,	1 00
A Sister, Meadow Mills,	2 00
Lydia L. Hottle, Meadow Mills, Va.,	1 00
A Brother,	1 00
Mrs. Sarah Griffith, Chadville, Pa.,	1 00
Miss Mollie Gans,	1 00
John Moomaw, Lyndon, Ohio,	2 00
A. H. Cassel, Holesville, Pa.,	1 00
Hugo Paul Wise, Middlebranch, Ohio,	3 00
F. W. Hookman, Tom's Brook, Va.,	2 45
A. B. Altoona, Pa.,	1 00
Vina Snyder, Canton, Ohio,	1 00
Pauline C. Firestone, Daleville, Va.,	2 00
Mrs. Fogus,	1 00
Mrs. Fultz,	1 00
Lydia Fox, Miamisburg, Ohio,	10 00
S. A. Wine, Quicksburg, Va.,	75
Charles Kagey,	25
Brethren Church, Johnstown, Pa.,	7 75
	\$51 50

#### CHICAGO FUND

Mrs. Daniel Mahan, Berthoud, Col.,	5 00
Mrs. Esther Mohler, Brighton, Ind.,	5 00
W. E. Sanger, North English, Iowa,	5 00
Misses Blough, Milledgeville, Ill.,	10 00
Ellen Gnagey Lichty, Falls City, Neb.,	5 00
Offerings Chicago Mission,	9 47
	\$39 47

Total,	\$117 47
Amount previously reported,	636 55
	\$754 02

#### EXPENDITURES

Amount sent to W. M. Lyon direct,	\$51 00
" " J. O. Talley "	39 47
Amount previously reported,	681 14
	\$771 61

Balance due secretary,	\$17 59
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The reader will observe that there is still a small balance due the secretary and Brother Talley writes me that he is entirely out of money and must have help at once. How is he to get it? Will not the pastors take up this matter and secure small monthly contributions for the support of the general work?

JACOB O. CASSEL, Sec.

#### Report of Chicago Church Fund

Amount previously reported	\$1482 55
Laura A. Williams, Lordsburg, Cal.,	5 00
M. Alice Leonard, North Ontario, Cal.,	5 00
H. H. Woolford, Williamstown, O.,	5 00
World-wide Miss. Society, Maasontown, Pa.,	2 61
S S C E, Warsaw, Ind.,	5 00
Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Holdeman, Milford, Ind.,	5 00
W. H. Eikenberry, Russiaville, Ind.,	3 00
Angeline Eikenberry, Russiaville, Ind.,	1 00
Brethren Chapel, Akron, Ind.,	2 80

Barrel Opening, Enon, Iowa,	4 50
King's Children, Enon, Iowa,	6 85
Walter Clark, Cassopolis, Mich.,	5 00
Y P S C E, Godfrey, Kans.,	4 60
Clara & Maggie Kyler, Martinsburg, Pa.,	2 00
Y P S C E, Jones Mills, Pa.,	5 00
Mrs. L. L. Tombaugh, Washington, Pa.,	2 00
Corinth Brethren Church, Twelve Mile, Ind.,	15 00
Sunday-school, Bryan, Ohio,	15 00
S S C E, Bryan, Ohio,	2 00
S S C E, Louisville, Ohio,	5 00
Brethren Church, McLouth, Kans.,	12 25
Frances Shaffer, Falls City, Neb.,	5 00
Eli Bowers,	1 00
John Horner,	1 00
Frank Shaffer,	1 00
N. B. Burnworth,	1 00
B. F. Slagel,	2 00
N. Pritchard,	1 00
F. S. Lichty,	1 00
I. B. Loucks,	3 00
D. Sargent,	1 00
M. Lichty,	1 00
Mrs. M. Lichty,	1 00
Brethren S. S.,	5 00
Ed Kimmel,	1 00
Mrs. Edgar Mathers,	1 00
Mollie Saylor,	1 00
Levi Nedrow,	5 00
M. Beachy,	2 00
S. Kimmel,	10 00
Geo. & Sarah Wilson, Mexico, Ind.,	2 00
	\$1591 36

In addition to what is reported herein there are several contributions amounting to over one hundred dollars that have not been reported to me officially yet. This shows some progress, but there is another one thousand dollars needed to repay the brethren that have advanced money to secure and settle for the property. There is no alternative other than for such that have not yet contributed anything to proceed at once to do so, and such as have already given sums to go down a little deeper and bring out another offering. Brethren and sister we will all be richer for it. There will be no let-up until this money is raised.

JACOB O. CASSEL, Sec.

915 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

#### From the National Capitol.

The work here continues to prosper, and the Lord is certainly with us in mighty power. On last thursday night three precious souls followed Christ in baptism, and on Sunday night when the usual invitation was extended to any who wished to make Christ their choice, five responded, all in their youth. One of them, the eldest daughter of brother and sister Hayre is only ten years of age, but I am sure she understands the step she has taken, and will make a good soldier of the cross. The boys and girls of our Sunday school are taking great interest in all the meetings and are even holding meetings of their own before the regular services on Sunday and Thursday nights, and we expect in the near future to see a number of them follow the glorious example of our little sister, whom I have already mentioned. A most encouraging feature of the work here is the increased attendance at both the Sunday and mid week service.

Brother Cassel has our most heartfelt sympathy in his bereavement, and we know that the all-wise and merciful God in whom Brother Cassel puts his trust, and who has sustained him in all the troubles and sorrows